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NSC BRIEFING

September 1955

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IMMINENT BREAK-UP OF CYPRUS TALKS

- I. The conference in London on the Cyprus question is expected 25X6
to break up shortly in complete disagreement.

- II. The principal results of the conference are likely to be:

- A. A change in government in Athens, where ailing Prime Minister Papagos may resign as a "hero who has done his best;" 25X6
- B. Rapid deterioration in Greek-Turkish relations, with a lessening of co-operation between the two countries in NATO and the Balkan alliance;
- C. Renewed outbreaks of violence on Cyprus, where the influence of Nationalist extremists will be increased; and
- D. Intensive diplomatic campaigns by Greece, Turkey and Britain in preparation for a bitter debate in the UN General Assembly.

- III. Another probable result will be a new postwar low for American prestige in Greece, since the Greeks will regard the US as partly responsible for failure of the London conference.

Neutralism in Greece will probably gain new strength.

- A. The danger to American property and interests on Cyprus from terrorist attacks may also become acute.

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